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will be welcomed alike by bench and bar. It possesses the merit, in common with the rest of the valuable Horn-Book series, of originality of arrangement and clearness of expression. Anything that has any possible bearing on the law of negligence has been brought in by the indefatigable author. Carriers of goods and the liability of a master are given not undue space, and we are glad to see that a chapter has been devoted to the negligence of municipal corporations, although more space might be given to quasi-municipal corporations.

If we must criticise, we think a separate chapter might be given to the duty to insure safety. Moreover, the defence of contributory negligence has more to do with the decision of these cases than any other claim or defence, and additional space devoted to it would not be amiss. We also notice that no distinction is made between 81 Pa. and 81* Pa.; this is to be regretted, as the former has all the weight of the duly authorized reports of our State, while the latter has been justly termed a somewhat apocryphal volume. When this and other minor errors are corrected, we feel sure that every lawyer in active practice would be well repaid in having this work on his desk.

J. M. D.

THE LAW OF ANIMALS. By J. H. INGHAM, of the Philadelphia Bar. T. & J. W. Johnson & Co., Philadelphia. 1900.

A very interesting and, we believe, a unique volume has just been published in Mr. Ingham's *Law of Animals*. What the author says in his preface is so true and so well expressed that we quote it at length: "There is, in the author's opinion, natural cause for wonder why, at a time when of making many law-books there is no end, the large and important subject exploited in the present volume has been almost wholly disregarded. For just as the law of real property differs from that of personal property as dealing with what is immovable and indestructible, so the law of animate differs from that of inanimate property as dealing with powers of consciousness, volition and reproduction and liability to suffering and death—a distinction far more significant in science and philosophy, however it may be in jurisprudence, than that existing in the former case. As a matter of fact, these powers and liabilities in animal life form the basis of an elaborate system of rights and responsibilities which may be termed with perfect propriety the *Law of Animals*. The elements of this law have, hitherto, lain more or less concealed in numberless statutes, reports, digest and text-books. Hardly an index of any scope can be found in which the title '*Animals*' does not occur, accompanied by various cross references. And yet, so far as the present writer has been able to ascertain, no effort has ever been made to work these scattered elements into an organic structure. It is hoped, therefore, that this treatise may serve to the accomplishment of such an end. It must be premised that, animals being personal property, the whole law governing such property is applicable of course to them, but it is only such particular portions of that law

as relate distinctly to their peculiar qualities that can be called, with any technical accuracy, the Law of Animals. Matters unconnected with their natures, dispositions and habits, their liability to injure and be injured—which concern them and all other subjects of property alike—are not discussed here. With regard to the method of treatment adopted, it has been the object of the author to let the cases speak as much as possible for themselves—in other words to give, as far as is consistent with reasonable brevity, the facts and grounds of decision in all the more important cases rather than to furnish long lists of cases to support general legal propositions.”

The writer has been most happy in the general arrangement of his subject matter as well as in his style, which is clear and pleasing. It is refreshing to find a law-book of really literary merit. Not since the publication of Pollock’s treatise on the law of Torts have we found one more easy to read. The reason is that text-book writers are lawyers first and rhetoricians afterwards. The same thing might be said of judges whose opinions are so frequently overburdened with learning and “latent ambiguities,” that what they really mean to say is largely a matter of speculation. Just as the Commentaries of Sir William Blackstone were the first coherent elucidation of the law of England, so is Mr. Ingham’s book the first systematic treatment of the law of animals. To be sure one treats of many subjects and the other of but a single subject. However, both are pioneers in what was hitherto a more or less unknown country. The maps that have been prepared for us will vastly facilitate our journeys over both fields.

In short, Mr. Ingham’s book is likely to become a standard work. He starts under favorable auspices—even the proof-readers seem to have been unusually industrious, as there is a notable absence of the typographical errors which so greatly mar legal compositions. We hope the book will meet with the success it deserves.

E. B. S., Jr.